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[Inclosure.]

UNITED STATES CONSULATE,  
*Maracaibo, June 25, 1900.*

SIR: I see from the reports of the consul at Puerto Cabello to the Secretary of the Interior, that he speaks of smallpox and quarantine to Maracaibo from Puerto Cabello. Allow me to state that there is quarantine against Maracaibo from the Dutch Government, but that the ports of Venezuela are open and the only outlet for passengers.

I have reported upon smallpox and yet have given clean bill of health to the steamers direct to New York; but all passengers must produce a certificate of vaccination, none being allowed to Puerto Rico.

I have closely examined into the merits and I am backed by the written documents from the collector of the port, the board of health of the State and city and the doctors of the port. All declare in writing that there is no reason to deny a clean bill of health. There is no doubt we have some cases; but they were introduced from Colombia, and strict laws have been given in regard to the allowance into the city of anyone from that country without a certificate of vaccination.

I shall keep you informed.

Respectfully,

E. H. PLUMACHER,  
*United States Consul.*

Hon. FRANCIS B. LOOMIS,  
*E. E. and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at Caracas.*

#### WEST AFRICA.

*Further concerning yellow fever at Goree-Dakar.*

GOREE-DAKAR, *June 30, 1900.*

SIR: Since my last dispatch on the subject, of June 16, several cases of yellow fever have occurred at Dakar and Rufisque and 1 at Goree, but as there have not yet been more than 4 or 5 cases in either of the above-mentioned places at any one time, the disease has not been formally declared epidemic. It has not increased of late, but the type seems very fatal. About two-thirds of those who are attacked die. The large mail steamers which pass refuse to take passengers, but the cargo boats which trade here have taken many hundreds, if not thousands, of panic stricken people, including the military. The disease may not gain a very disastrous footing on account of the wholesale exodus of Europeans from the colony and the strictness of the local quarantines, which natives have already been shot for infringing. The Government seems determined to "stamp it out," if it is possible to do so, and it has certainly been prevented from increasing or spreading. None of the cargo boats which have left here with passengers had sickness break out on board of them, but it is so uncomfortable leaving that way in hot weather that it is doubtful if I shall make the attempt, although I have until recently expected to go. The English consul left last month.

Respectfully,

P. STRICKLAND,  
*United States Consul.*

*Sierra Leone quarantines against Bathurst, Gambia, Goree-Dakar, and Rufisque, on account of yellow fever.*

SIERRA LEONE, *June 21, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that owing to the prevalence of yellow fever in the colonies of Bathurst, Gambia, and at Goree-Dakar and Rufisque in French Guiana, the governor-in-council of Sierra Leone has declared said colonies infected places; and has issued notices bearing dates of the 29th ultimo and 15th instant, that all vessels arriving at any